Mr. C. Matthai.—There are none now. We expect to have some next year. The Third Form is the highest in the Lower Secondary division.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—Was the stipend of Rs. 3 availed of by anybody?

Mr. C. Matthai.—It will be availed of from next year.

Grant to the Y. W. C. A. Hostel.

509. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether any rule or principle was followed in giving grant to hostels before the order fixing the grant at Rs. 1-4-0 was passed and, if so, what was it; and to lay on the table the petition or request recently submitted by the authorities of the Y. W. C. A. Hostel, Kunnamkulam, to the Diwan through the Director of Public Instruction about the inadequate grant to their hostel before the rate at Rs. 1—4—0 per boarder and the order passed by the Government in this matter?

Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes. The payment of grant was based more or less on the average cost per boarder in the Government hostels, special consideration being shown to those that were intended for backward or depressed communities.

The petition and the orders thereon are appended. (*Vide Appendix V.*)

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The answer refers to Government hostels. Is it not so?

President.—The answer has reference to Government hostels.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The aid given to aided schools is based on our expenditure on Government hostels.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Do you take into consideration all the Government hostels of the State, when you give grant to a particular hostel?

Mr. C. Matthai.—We have more or less an idea of what it costs us in Government hostels per boarder, and grants are based on that.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Suppose there is no Government hostel.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It does not matter at all. We can more or less know what it would cost us in Kunnamkulam, Irinjalakkuda, etc.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is there any distinction made between Girls' hostels and Boys' hostels?

Mr. C. Matthai.—The answer on the point has been already given.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—My question arises from the answer now given.

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Mr. C. Matthai.—In the petition quoted there, the answer is given.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Government made a distinction, and gave more grants to boys' hostels than to girls' hostels.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is an absurd statement to say that more grant is given to boys' hostels than to girls' hostels.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know whether the word "absurd" is parliamentary or unparliamentary?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I withdraw it.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Hon'ble Member said that the answer is given in the petition. Has the Hon'ble Member admitted the facts given in the petition? If that fact is not admitted, may I know whether any distinction is made between girls' hostels and boys' hostels?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I will refer to the petition, Sir, and if you look into the petition, you will see. That appears in Appendix V. I beg respectfully to draw your attention to question No. 252 of the last budget session of the Legislative Council, and the answer given, stating that no distinction is being made between boys' and girls' hostels in giving grants. That is a plain statement.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Yes, Sir. There is another fact in the petition. (Vide petition addressed to His Highness referred to above.) The facts given below will prove our case. The Appendix to the answer to question No. 86 of the last budget session of the Legislative Council will show that, while in our hostel there were 17 boarders, we were given only Rs. 15 per mensem, i. e., less than one rupee per boarder, while though there were only 15 boarders (Vrischigam, Dhanu and Makaram) in the local Y. M. C. A. Hostel that hostel was getting a grant of Rs. 20, that is, more than Re. 1-5-0 per head and the Tiyya Girls' Hostel at Ernakulam Re. 1-5-0 per boarder.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, Sir, that is an altogether erroneous representation of facts contained in the petition. I shall explain myself. At the outset, we used to give lump grants to this hostel irrespective of the number of boarders in the hostel. For instance, in the case of the particular hostel about which the Member speaks, we gave them a lump grant of Rs. 15. They got the lump grant, whether they had 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 boarders. Supposing they had only ten—and as a matter of fact that particular hostel about which the Member complains had at one time only ten on its rolls—and were getting Rs. 15, that works out at the rate of Re. 1-8-0, and the Y. M. C. A. Hostel was getting much less. It is no good saying that in one particular month we got only Re. 1-4-0. If the Member were to

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look into the figures of the previous months, he would see that they were getting Re. 1-8-0 and Re. 1-6-0, etc. It would be altogether erroneous to take that figures for one month.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The Member has been repeatedly using the word "erroneous." But the facts are here. It is in the Legislative Council Proceedings, and I am only referring to that. If the facts given in the Legislative Council Proceedings are erroneous, I will admit it. (Vide question No. 86, last budget session of the Legislative Council.)

Mr. C. Matthai.—That is only for one month, Sir. How can you say that the sum of grant is less, if you simply judge from one month?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It is not for one month, Sir. It is for Vrischigam, Dhanu and Makaram——a quarter of a year.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Suppose this particular hostel has been drawing grant for three years, and that they had only 10 boarders to begin with. I am simply stating facts. All that I say is the Hostel has been working for three years. Simply because during three months they were drawing less than Re. 1-8-0, you should not say the scale of grant is less.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I shall not press that point. I have other points.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The facts are quite clear, Sir.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—There are two requests made in the petition, and reply is given only to one portion of it. May I know whether the other portion will receive the attention of the Government?

Mr. C. Matthai.—What is the portion that has not received the attention of the Government?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Our second request is to treat our hostel, in the matter of giving grant, as the other Girls' hostels referred to above are treated. That portion of the petition has not received the attention of the Government, I believe.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Because it does not deserve consideration.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—So no reply need be given to the petition which is received by the Government?

President.—It is open to the Government to give a reply or not. It does not deserve consideration.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—That is why I put the question, and I want to see whether the Government will answer it or not.

Mr. C. Matthai.—May I ask the question, Sir, supposing the Member wants at the rate of 1-- 5-- 0, and that particular

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hostel has been drawing at the rate of 1-- 8—0, is he prepared to give back the excess to the Government ?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I am not going to give back to the Government or to the hostel. I am basing my question on the facts. If any excess has been given, it is for the officer in charge of the department to pay that.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The Member is basing his arguments on conclusions from the Legislative Council Proceedings which have been placed on the table of the Government.

The Hostels attached to the Maharaja's College.

510. Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

i. the number and names of the hostels attached to the Maharaja's College;

ii. the total capital expenditure incurred in connection with each of those hostels;

iii. the annual recurring expenditure incurred by the Government on account of each of those hostels;

iv. the maximum accommodation in each of those hostels;

v. the number of students staying in each of those hostels;

vi. the number of students belonging to each of the following communities who have made private arrangements for lodging (excluding students living with their parents or other relatives);

(a) Caste Hindus, (b) Christians,

(c) Muslims, (d) Non-caste-Hindus;

vii. do the College authorities inspect the private lodges ;

viii. are the students absolutely free to make any sort of arrangement for their lodging ?

Mr. C. Matthai.—i. There are two Government hostels attached to the College, viz., the Hindu Hostel and the Christian Hostel. There are also three aided hostels open to College students, viz., the Tiyya Boys' Hostel, the Muslim Hostel and the S. N. V. Sadanam.

ii. The capital expenditure incurred on account of vessels, furniture and other equipments by the Hindu and the Christian

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APPENDIX V.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 509.)

Petition dated 17th December 1926 from the Honorary Secretary, Y. W. C. A., Kunnamkulam.

I beg to state that I have been directed by the Secretary to the Diwan to submit the following through the Director of Public Instruction.

I had respectfully submitted a petition to His Highness on the 29th May 1926, for giving our hostel a grant of Rs. 1—4—0 per boarder from the beginning of last academical year or instead, to grant at least Rs. 60 more for the whole of the year during which time the grant given to our hostel was quite inadequate and proportionately far below the amount of grant given to other hostels. As no reply has been received by me, I hope the matter is under the consideration of the Government of His Highness. I may, therefore, avail myself of this opportunity to bring to the attention of the Government the following matter for early and favourable disposal.

I beg respectfully to draw your attention to question No. 252 (last budget session of the Legislative Council) and the answer given stating that no distinction is being made between boys' and girls' hostels in giving grant, and may request you to sanction more grant for girls' hostels for encouraging education of the girls who live in villages and who have to come and live in hostels, unlike the girls in towns, for their education, paying both for lodging and boarding. In Travancore which stands foremost in the education of women, even to-day, I understand, that more grant is given to girls' hostels. The number of Girls' High schools in our State is much less than that of Boys' High schools and the education of girls is thus handicapped. And the Girls' High schools are situated in towns, far removed from many villages. From this you will be pleased to note it is the hostels that lessen the barrier that stands against girls residing in villages and, therefore, I request the Government to encourage girls' hostels by giving better grant to them.

In our State, there are only two or three fully developed girls' hostels receiving aid from the Government and our hostel is one of them. Tiyya Girls' Hostel at Ernakulam is another one and the Government, I understand, is giving it a grant of Rs. 1—5—0 per boarder (which is one anna more per boarder than given to our hostel) and half the rent.

Our first request is to give us at least Rs. 1—4—0 per boarder from the beginning of last academical year, from which time forward we have been submitting petition after petition requesting for an increase of grant, in other words, to give retrospective effect to the Diwan's Order Dis. 270/R/1101 or to sanction at least Rs. 60 as a consolidated sum for that period to compensate for the loss we have suffered. (Vide petition addressed to His Highness referred to above). The facts given below will prove our case. The Appendix to the answer to question No. 86 (last budget session of the Legislative Council) will show that while in our hostel there were 17 boarders, we were given only Rs. 15 per mensem, i. e., less than one rupee per boarder and that while there were only 15 boarders (Vrischigam, Dhanu and Makaram) in the local Y. M. C. A. hostel, that hostel was getting a grant of Rs. 20, i. e., more than Rs. 1—5—0 per head and the Tiyya Girls' Hostel at Ernakulam Rs. 1—5—0 per boarder. The other Boys' hostel, namely, Tiyya Boys' Hostel at Ernakulam was also getting a grant of Rs. 1—4—0 per boarder. It needs further mention that the Tiyya Girls' Hostel at Ernakulam, in addition to the grant referred to above, was getting half the rent of the building, viz., Rs. 15 per mensem. This will show the unsatisfactory way in which our hostel was treated, and all that time we were complaining about the inadequacy of grant given to us.

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Our second request is to treat our hostel in the matter of giving grant as the other Girls' Hostel referred to above is treated. Both the hostels are run for girls and so the grant per boarder should be the same in both the cases. Both the hostels are run in rented buildings, our rent being Rs. 15 per mensem. So I respectfully request to sanction us Rs. 1—5—0 per boarder and half the rent of the building which is only Rs. 7—8—0 per mensem. By granting this request, I beg to point out, the Government will recognise the principle of encouraging the education of girls, for there are only two fully developed Girls' Hostels in the State receiving grant from the Government and of which one is already receiving better grant.

I respectfully request you to consider favourably the above two requests of ours which are quite reasonable and fair, and issue early orders sanctioning them.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

(Education.)

Read again Diwan's Proceedings, dated 13th May 1926, Dis. 270/R/1101.

2. R. O. C. No. 5523/1102, dated 8th February 1927, from the Director of Public Instruction forwarding a petition from the Honorary Secretary, Y. W. C. A., Kunnamkulam.

And 3. Sarvadhikariakar's communication dated 22nd February 1927, A. No. 753/1102.

Order dated 24th February 1927, Dis. No. 173/R/1102.

The Y. W. C. A. Hostel at Kunnamkulam will be granted half the rent of the Hostel building subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 and subject to the condition that it should have not less than 20 boarders.

(True extract)

(Sd.)
Secretary to the Diwan.

To

The Director of Public Instruction.
The Comptroller of Accounts.
Copy to the Honorary Secretary.

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